

Academic Senate Resolution Health Services for MSJC Students

Whereas, the California Community College Chancellor's Office has policies and guidelines (Title V and Ed Code 76355) for the establishment and implementation of Health Service Centers on Community College campuses

Whereas, the California Community College Chancellor's Office has established The California Community Colleges Student Mental Health Program (CCC SMHP) to provide resources for California Community Colleges including staff, student, and faculty training on Suicide Prevention, Veteran's Mental Health and LGBTQ Mental Health that can be overseen by a Health Services Program.

Whereas, the California Community Colleges Student Mental Health Program Final Evaluation Report May 2015 reports that "Despite similar rates of psychological distress, students from the CCC system reported consistently higher rates of impaired academic performance due to mental health issues than their counterparts in the other systems of higher education (CSU and UC)," (Pg 9)

Whereas, the Health Services Association California Community Colleges Position Statement of 2010 outlines minimum services and guidelines for Health Centers within California Community Colleges

Whereas, the California Community College Student Mental Health program provides important tools and educational resources, which can be disseminated through a Health Services, including information with regard to compliance for the Affordable Health Care Act, and In Kognito trainings to train faculty and staff at recognizing the warning signs within students and directing them to services (<http://www.cccstudentmentalhealth.org/>)

Whereas, the Academic Senate California Community Colleges created a resolution in Spring 2016 outlining the following:

1 in 4 students have a diagnosable mental illness;

40% of students do not seek help when they need it;

8 out of 10 people who experience psychosis have their first episode between the ages of 15 and 30;

Depression is the number one reason students drop out of school and can lead to problems such as suicide and homelessness;

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among college students, claiming more than 1,100 lives every year;

Mental health challenges may affect students' academic performance as well as their ability to fully participate in and complete their education; and

Educators have a duty to ensure a productive and safe educational environment for students so that the students may learn and thrive, and improvements in a college's mental health services such as campus wide awareness and prevention efforts, stigma reduction, early recognition, personnel and peer training, mental health screening, improved partnerships with and access to community resources, integrated care, and consistent funding are all necessary for addressing the needs of students;

Whereas, 85% of California Community Colleges provide health services to students, and 79% of California Community Colleges provide mental health services to students

Whereas, our neighboring California Community Colleges in both Region X and Region IX, all provide health services to student including Palomar College, MiraCosta College, Riverside City College, Norco College, Moreno Valley College, San Bernardino Valley College, Crafton Hills College, and Chaffey College. Such California Community College Health Services provide basic health care and mental health services to students to support student success and well-being

Whereas, after the costs of establishing the facilities and infrastructure for such services, ongoing Health Services at most of the neighboring institutions is independently funded through the implementation of a Health Services fee not to exceed \$19 per semester consistent with California Community College Chancellor Office guidelines.

Whereas, higher rates of psychological distress were reported by biracial students (22.9%), students with disabilities (36.2%), and LGBTQ students (29.1%), all of which are highly represented within the MSJC student population, and are identified as equity groups (California Community Colleges Student Mental Health Program Final Evaluation Report May 2015)

Whereas, MSJC continues to be the number one growth school in the state, and will inevitably serve a high number of disproportionately impacted students, who may be in greater need

Therefore, let it be firmly resolved that the Mt. San Jacinto College Academic Senate urges the Administration and Board of Trustees to establish Health Services for MSJC students.